

The Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc **HINGES & TONGS**

MEETINGS ARE HELD 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS SEPT.-JUNE AT ST. PAULS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TRADING & TALKING 7PM FORMAL PROGRAM 8PM

JULY - AUGUST

editor
Joseph K. Doles

1995

RPA Programs Sept - Dec 1995

- Sept 14 Kiloware : at low cost you can pick and choose and at the same time help the treasury
Sept 28 APS slide show-topic tba
Oct 12 called auction of Warren Stevens material
Oct 26 APS slide show-topic tba
Nov 9 Tom Fortunato on Ceramics
Nov 23 Thanksgiving - no meeting
Dec 14 Florence Wright tba
Dec 28 no meeting

from the Prez,

Again we are ready to start a new year with the RPA going strong. We welcome all members back to another exciting time of philatelic pursuits. This year we would like to make a few changes and also remind you of our current operating guidelines.

1. There will be a silent auction during every program except those that feature a called auction like Oct 12. We want the people to be able to have time to view these things so ALL material must be on the auction table by 7:45. If you can't make the deadline personally then send your lots ahead with someone else.

2. The meeting room gets organized around 7:00 and we invite your help to move tables and chairs. You are free to view the auction material and talk to each other about anything. At 8:00 the meeting will start with business during the first 1/2 hour and a program during the second. The silent auction will close 10 minutes after the program.

3. APS circuits will be available at 7:30.

4. Ada Prill will be in charge of the one-page exhibits which will be done on the first meeting of the month. Sept 14 theme anything goes, October 12, Columbus.
Ray Stone

BOARD MEETING ANNOUNCED

For members of the executive board, there will be an executive board meeting Sept 21 at 7:30 at the home of Ray Stone. The main topic will be RPA finances.

NEW PHILATELIC CLERK at GMF

Bill Tisa on temporary assignment for 6 months

Hours: 7 AM - 3:30 PM

closed for lunch 11 AM - NOON

phone Philatelic Window 272-5952

New Cuban Member

The RPA would like to welcome an overseas member to our ranks. He is Antonio Creo Reyes, P.O. Box 2222, 10200 Havana 2, Cuba.

Antonio is president of a major philatelic club in Havana, and also a member of the ISWSC and UNION stamp societies. He is especially interested in exchanging mint Cuban stamps for mint US stamps, booklets and miniature sheets at face value. There are rarely problems with mail to or from Cuba, and he has had successful trades with US collectors for many years. Contact him with your interests.

Wall Hanging Winner

The winner of the beautiful global hemisphere wall hanging created by Mrs. Warren Stevens is Bob Searjeant. His winning ticket was drawn at the annual RPA banquet June 13. Nearly 120 tickets were sold, surpassing RPA estimates. Congratulations, Bob!

CAPEX'96 Draws Near

Is there any interest in arranging a weekend bus trip up to the international CAPEX show in Toronto next year? It's scheduled to run from Saturday, June 8 through Sunday, June 16. There may be a US first day of issue ceremony on the first day of the show, if tradition holds true. A possible scenario would be a Rochester departure at 6 AM on Saturday morning, drop-off at the Convention Centre by 9:30, pickup at 6 PM followed by a hotel check in for the evening. There would be another full day at the show Sunday, with a Toronto departure about 4 PM and arrival home at 7:30. Approximate cost may be around US\$60-70 per person, with a minimum of 30 people. These are not firm prices, only estimates.

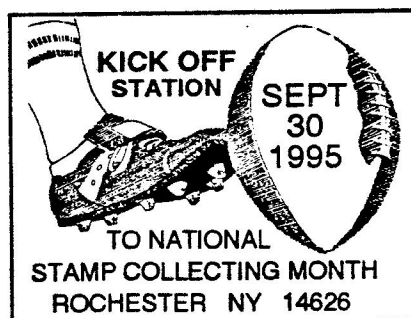
If you might like to go on this group tour, please contact Tom Fortunato at 621-1670 no later than August 1. If enough RPA members and guests show interest, more definitive arrangements will be looked into.

Olympilex'96 In Atlanta

Are any RPA members planning to attend the Olympics next year in Atlanta, July 19 - August 4, 1996? In conjunction with the sporting events are many Cultural Olympiad activities, including a great international stamp show, Olympilex'96. It will be held in the city center at the Merchandise Mart.

Nancy Zielinski Clark, show organizer, has asked fellow RPA members to donate any unwanted sports related stamps to the show to be used in youngster give away packets. If you can help, send your stamps to: Olympilex'96, P.O. Box 1996, Lexington, GA 30648 USA, phone (706)743-5044 or fax (706)743-3845. Mention that you are an RPA member! Also use this address to receive show details.

Cancel design by Joe Doles has been submitted to the USPS for use at The Mall at Greece Ridge Center. See article elsewhere in this issue of H&T.



Reflections

by Tom Fortunato

We've really had a great year this stamp season, and are gearing up for an even better one. Let me take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who made this year such a success, from our well attended meetings to another wonderful ROPEX. It was my pleasure to serve as your president in 1994-5, our 81st year.

It's time to take a serious look at the future of the RPA. While we are overall financially sound, thanks to profits from ROPEX and cachet sales, regular RPA expenses are running about twice that of our dues income. The RPA Board agrees that a dues increase is not the way to resolve the situation in the long term.

The best way to ensure the future success of the RPA is simple: recruit new members! As you all know, it's futile to wait for new recruits to come to us, so we must make a concerted effort to get out into the community to promote the RPA as well as philately in general.

Therefore, I'm suggesting an initiative to double the size of the RPA membership to 250 within the next three years which will be accomplished through a variety of community-wide promotional efforts. This is an attainable goal only with the full support and assistance of the entire RPA membership.

Plans are already underway for our first event. The RPA will sponsor a "Kickoff to National Stamp Collecting Month" day at the Greece Ridge Center Mall on Saturday, September 30, starting at 10 AM. We will have games, activities and exhibits, as well as short seminars on stamp collecting basics. The USPS will be there with a special cancel and plenty of giveaways as well. Circle this date on your calendar now, as we will be needing plenty of help to make this a success. You will be contacted sometime in August and asked to donate a few hours of your time for the kickoff.

The loss of two active RPA members this past season, Marty Price and Larry Moriarty, should make us realize that we are all only "caretakers of philately". Do your part to help the RPA - come to meetings, participate in the programs and support our activities. Together, we can achieve great things.

USPS Approved abbreviations

AVE	Avenue	JCT	Junction	VLY	Valley
BLVD	Boulevard	LK	Lake	APT	Apartment
CT	Court	LN	Lane	RM	Room
CTR	Center	MTN	Mountain	STE	Suite
CIR	Circle	PKY	Parkway	PLZ	Plaza
DR	Drive	PL	Place		
EXPY	Expressway	RD	Road	N	North
HTS	Heights	STA	Station	E	East
HWY	Highway	ST	Street	S	South
IS	Island	TPKE	Turnpike	W	West

How Much

by Tom Fortunato

OK RPA members, here's a quick quiz. How much does it cost to mail in an RPA ballot post card? (No this isn't a new Polish joke.) I would have thought almost all of you would have gotten this one right, but was I wrong!

Some 36 of you mailed your ballot in from our latest election. Here's a breakdown of what you used for postage.

1 used 10¢ in total postage (2 -5¢ Marin definitives)
Total 1 (2.8%) underpaid [by 50% of the correct rate]

6 used the proper G postage rate stamp
14 used 20¢ in denominated stamps
Total 20 (55.6%) properly rated

2 used 25¢ in postage
1 used 29¢
7 used the wrong "G" stamp valued at 32¢
5 used 32¢ in denominated stamps
Total 15 (41.6%) overpaid [by an average of 154% of the correct rate, or 30.8¢ each]

Now the fun begins. The Rochester GMF takes some 500,000 pieces of mail daily on average. Let's assume 1/2% (or .005) of that is made up of franked post cards, or 2,500 pieces. Using those percentages we discovered above:

	Paid USPS	
70 underpaid at 10¢ each=	7.00	
1,390 paid properly at 20¢ each =	278.00	605.32
1,040 over franked at 30.8¢ each=	320.32	-500.00
2,500 (x 20¢ each=\$500)	605.32	105.32
		overpaid daily

Looking at the number of mailable days the USPS could have accepted mail (Monday through Saturday) between January 1 and June 8 when the ballots were counted, minus holidays over that period, totals 131 days. Multiplying 131 days x \$105.32 overpaid daily = \$13,796.92.

Now let's estimate that the Rochester GMF intakes roughly 1% of the total national domestic mail volume. That would mean on a national basis the postal service reaped a benefit of \$1.38 million on post cards alone!

Needless to say, confusion reigns during a postal rate change. Certainly the postal service makes more money then it loses over such a period due to overpayments. If we stamp collectors can't get it right, how can we expect the public at large to know "how much"?

The Myth of Cliques

Most of the Local Clubs are Led by Activists
by Robert Thompson

(reprinted from CAC Newsletter, April 1995)

One of the greatest enduring myths of organized stamp collecting and stamp club leadership is that there is a small inner circle of members who run everything and don't welcome newcomers into their midst.

The facts are there is always an identifiable group of active people who do keep the organizations going, but calling the group a clique is usually wrong. An active group respects effort. IF YOU JOIN IN AND MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, YOU'LL BE PART OF THE CLIQUE FASTER THAN YOU CAN SAY, "PHILATELIST." Then you are in a good position to express your ideas.....

The group is not a closed clique, but everyone must earn their way into it the same way the group did. Working the jaws is not enough.

Ask yourself, what have I done to personally become active in the organization? Have I volunteered my efforts for setting up, tearing down, manning the admissions area, sitting at Society tables, or just general support? Have I exhibited at my local club show? Have I given a talk or attended the societies social functions?...

If you want to become part of this "clique," whole heartedly, then become active and you will be welcomed. Nothing could be easier than becoming active, and think of the new friends and fun you will have.

Rochester Philatelic Association's 1995 - 1996 Officers

PRESIDENT:
Raymond M. Stone

VICE PRESIDENT:
Paul R. Gerwitz

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
Joseph K. Doles

RECORDING SECRETARY:
Florence H. Wright

TREASURER:
Eleanor A. Phelps

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Betty "Dusty" Miller

Richard Kase

Chuck Schultz

PAST PRESIDENT

Tom Fortunato

PRESS RELEASE

RPA Sponsors NSCM Kickoff

The Rochester Philatelic Association will be celebrating western New York's "Kickoff to National Stamp Collecting Month" on Saturday, September, 30. The event will be held at The Mall at Greece Ridge Center, off Long Pond Road, from 10 AM to 5 PM near the Lechmere entrance. Some 20,000 shoppers visit the mall's 150 stores each Saturday.

Festivities begin with a proclamation by the City presented by Deputy Mayor Jeffrey Carlson, followed by brief remarks from other dignitaries. Half-hour long beginners' seminars take place at 11:30 AM, 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM to introduce young and old to our hobby. Booths will be set up teaching stamp collecting basics through hands-on displays. Plan to see ten frames of exhibits, play GeoSafari stamp games and go through piles of kiloware. Free informal philatelic appraisals are also available. The U.S. Postal Service plans to sell their complete line of philatelic products, hand out stamp information and have a special commemorative football cancel available as a souvenir (see below).

An important aspect of the day is to introduce casual collectors to the many local clubs which meet in Monroe County. Representatives from the RPA, Kodak Stamp Club, KSC/RPA Junior Stamp Club, Western Monroe Philatelic Society, American First Day Cover Society-Chapter 53, Society of Israeli Philatelists and Scandinavian Collector's Club will be there.

Members from the following additional national and international clubs plan to be present: American Philatelic Society, American Topical Association, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, American Revenue Association, Bureau Issues Association, Cover Collector's Circuit Club, Fakes & Forgeries Study Group, German Philatelic Society, International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors, Meter Stamp Society, New York State Postal History Society, Perfins Club, Post Mark Collector's Club.

For additional information, please contact the RPA at 42 Maynard Street, Rochester, NY 14615-2022, or phone (716)621-1670.



Rochester Philatelic Association Operating Accounts

July 1, 1994 through June 30, 1995

	Net Income	Net Expense
Dues	\$ 1085.00	
Auction Lots	185.85	
Donations	41.98	
Warren Stevens Raffle	70.50	
Refreshments	.99	
RPA Expense		\$ 25.60
Office Expense		326.60
Memoriums		55.00
Copier Expense		527.04
Hinges & Tongs Expense		217.36
ROPEX'95 / Late billings		160.50
Group Photograph		10.75
Meeting Room & Insurance		1904.00
Programs & Circuits		208.87
Dues to other groups		25.00
Library expense		259.00
Totals	\$ 1384.32	\$ 2819.72
Net Loss		(\$ 1435.40)

Frame Fund Activities

July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1995

Cachet Projects	Net Profit	\$ 870.61	\$ 582.00
+ credit balance carried w/ Best Printers		\$ 288.61	
Frame Maintenance	Net Loss	\$ 16.00	\$ 119.00
			\$ 103.00

Total for year transferred to RPA general fund. + \$ 185.61

Frame Fund Memorials

These amounts are to be accrued/carried from year to year \$ 102.00

Amount is carried in RPA checking account balance until enough is accrued to open a separate savings account.

ROPEX'95 Summary

	Gross Expense	Gross Income	NET Expense	NET Income
Dealers Fees	\$ 660.53	\$ 11,584.00		\$ 10,923.47
Exhibit Fees	257.20	1,920.85		1,663.65
Cachet/Cards	1,027.07	1,280.75		253.68
Judging	1,546.61	14.65	1,531.96	
Staging & Hotel	5,068.50		5,068.50	
Paid Advertising	2,124.20		2,124.20	
Mailings	170.00		170.00	
Security	1,115.50		1,115.50	
Hospitality	362.08		362.08	
Awards	895.20	75.00	820.20	
Program	360.00	270.00	90.00	
Youth Project	828.13	1,028.00		199.87
Misc / Office	160.47		160.47	
Banquet	337.54		337.54	
Totals	\$ 14,913.03	\$ 16,173.25	\$ 11,780.45	\$ 13,040.67

Transfer to RPA General Fund
Close RopeX '95 May 31, 1995
Opening bal. RopeX '96
Deposits, dealers fees

NET
\$ 1,260.22
\$ 1,260.22
\$ 1,260.22

Rochester Philatelic Association Financial Summary

For Fiscal Year July 1, 1994 through June 30, 1995

RPA Activities	Profit (loss)	-\$ 1435.40
Ropex '95		+ \$ 1260.00
Frame Fund		+ \$ 185.61
		+ \$ 10.21
Total Net		

Additional Income:

Interest on Savings Account + \$ 112.64
Interest on CD + \$ 67.68
Total + \$ 190.53

Cash Accounts as of June 30, 1995

Checking Account	\$ 4,485.51
Savings Account	\$ 3,041.99
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00
CD matures 7/3/95	\$ 2,000.00
CD matures 8/28/95	\$ 1,000.00
CD matures 12/18/95	\$ 2,500.00
CD matures 9/16/95	\$ 500.00
CD matures 11/24/95	\$ 1,500.00
Total Cash Accounts	\$ 15,127.50

CAN WE COUNT YOU IN?

Everyone likes to get mail - except for bills and bulk business mail (otherwise called junk mail), which some people put into the same category!

So you aren't going to get a separate "dues are due" notice this year. But some of us do need reminding about things; therefore, consider this your RPA dues reminder. If your yellow membership card doesn't have the dates July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1996 on it, then you haven't paid your dues. If you can't find your card, write us at the address on this newsletter.

The cost and time involved of sending out individual dues renewal letters has become too great to be practical. We don't want to raise membership fees. But consider these facts: For your \$10.00 you get six issues of Hinges and Tongs each year. That is \$1.50 for each copy. Of that amount, 32 or 55 cents is postage. That leaves about a dollar to pay for the paper, printing and copying. Adding additional postage and paper to mail out reminders just isn't cost effective.

So, please, mail your \$10.00 to P O Box 10206, Rochester NY 14610-0206, or to Membership Chairman, 33 Northumberland Rd., Rochester NY 14618 or bring it to a meeting. Please clip out the address label below and include it with your check. Your card will be enclosed with the next issue of H & T.

To date, 30 members have paid their 1995-96 dues either by check or cash at a recent meeting. To them, we say "Thank you" for remembering and being so prompt.

HINGES & TONGS

A PUBLICATION OF

The Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc.

PO Box 10206 Brighton Station
Rochester, N.Y. 14610-0206

All articles and comments
can be sent to the editor:

Joseph K. Doles
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STAMPING THRU NEW YORK

by Chuck Schultz

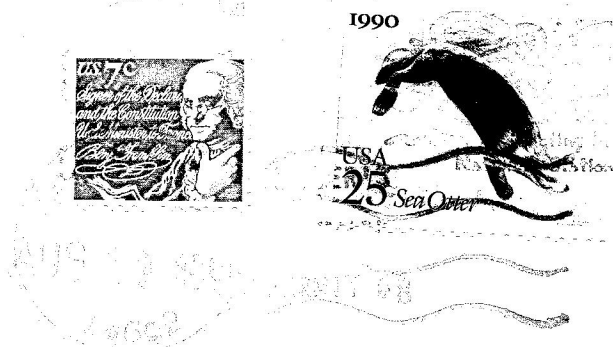
I did not attend any First Day Ceremonies this summer but I found an interesting Stamp Store in Ithaca, N.Y.. Kendall's Coin & Stamp Shop in the Dewitt Mall just east of the Ithaca Commons. The well known "Ithaca Commons" is an area filled with eclectic shops celebrating there 75th anniversary.

The Dewitt Mall is a large building which has antique, book, guitar, massage and gift shops. Several restaurants including the world renowned "Mooswood Restaurant" vegetarian cooking are also located in this building. I had a salad there that included flower petals.

The Kendall Stamp Shop is located across the hall from the Moosewood Restaurant. The shop is about the size of someones livingroom. It is 2/3s coins. The remainder of the shop has stamps, stamp supplies, covers and discount postage. They also had a few topical political pins "Ike For President" and a large supply of photo & revenue stamp cards at \$2.00 each.

The smallness of the shop made you feel like you were rummaging thru an attic looking for bargains. Not everything was priced and marked as I liked but I was able to find several interesting covers. My total purchases were \$8.57.

"Carl" was helpful and encouraged us to come back. There hours are Tues. - Fri. Noon to 5 P.M. and Sat. 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

9205
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